A New Subspecies of *Pseudochazara graeca* (Staudinger) 1870 (Lep.: Satyridae) from Greece

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Pseudochazara graeca (Staudinger) has recently been separated from the Asiatic species *Pseudochazara mamurra* (Herrich-Schaeffer) and has been placed as a species in its own right (Brown, 1976). The distribution of *P. graeca* seems to be entirely restricted to Greece, it being recorded from Mt. Taygetos, Mt. Chelmos, Mt. Parnassos, Mt. Tymphristos and Mt. Peristeri (Brown, *loc. cit.*), Mt. Menalon (Willemse, 1975), Mt. Iti (Lempke, 1974) and Ioannina (Koutsaftikis, 1974). The specimens from Mt. Taygetos up to as far north as Mt. Tymphristos are known to correspond to the description of *P.g. graeca* (Staudinger, 1870). However, examples of this same species occur in the Pindos mountains and correspond to an as yet undescribed subspecies.

Pseudochazara graeca **coutsisi** ssp. nov.

Male: Upperside ground colour very dark brown, the pale buff postdiscal markings obscured by extensive fuscous suffusion. Underside ground colour yellow-buff; hindwing heavily irrorated with dark grey, the distal border of discal area darkened to form a prominent character in most specimens. Forewing length 20.5-26 mm. Otherwise similar to *P.g. graeca.*

Female: Similar to male but larger, forewing length 26-27 mm. Upperside pale postdiscal markings less obscured by fuscous suffusion.

Material examined:

Holotype ♂ (forewing length 24 mm.). Smolikas Massif, N. Greece, 1,600 m., 27.vii.1976. J. Brown leg. et coll.

Allotype ♀ (forewing length 27 mm.). Katara Pass, Pindos Mts., 1,600 m., 17.viii.1976. J. G. Coutsis leg. In coll. Higgins.

Paratypes. Two ♂ ♂, data as for holotype but 25.vii.1975 and 17.vii.1976, in coll. Brown. Seven ♂ ♂, three ♀ ♀, data as for allotype but 1,450-1,600 m. and 25.vii.1970-27.viii.1976, J. G. Coutsis leg. et coll. Five ♂ ♂, data as for allotype, J. G. Coutsis leg. In coll. Higgins.

This subspecies is named with pleasure after Mr. J. G. Coutsis who was the first to capture this remarkable insect.

P.g. coutsisi flies over rough clearings in coniferous forests at altitudes of 1,400 m. to 1,650 m. This is rather different from the habitat of *P.g. graeca,* which favours open scree slopes.

P. graeca coutsisi can be distinguished from *P. graeca graeca* by the former's often smaller size, more darkly suffused upperside and, on the hindwing, the heavily marked underside. The underside of *P.g. graeca* is less distinctly irrorated and appears less grey and more ashen and pale. However, no significant difference could be discerned between the male genitalia of these two subspecies of *P. graeca.* Similarly, *P.g. coutsisi* can be clearly distinguished from *P. mamurra,* which

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species it resembles superficially, by its male genitalia, which show a broad distal third of the valve and a pointed vaivular tip, there being no trace of the more tapered valve which is typical of *P. mamurra. P.g. coutsisi* also shows some resemblance to the taxon *obscura* Staudinger, which flies in the Taurus Mountains, in that both have a very darkened and similar upperside. However, the male genitalia and androconia of specimens of *obscura* make it certain that this taxon is more closely allied to *P. mamurra* than to *P. graeca.* For example, the androconia of *obscura,* like those of *mamurra,* but unlike those of *graeca,* are of subgroup 2b (Brown, 1976). Moreover, *obscura* can be clearly distinguished from *coutsisi* by its rather deeply scalloped hindwings and by its silvery-grey hindwing underside. It is hoped to consider the relationships of the different forms of *Pseudochazara* from S.E. Europe and Asia Minor in a later work.

Thus, there would seem to be at least two different subspecies of *P. graeca,* which still seems to be restricted in its distribution to Greece. In the Pindos range of N. Greece there occurs the darker and the smaller *P.g. coutsisi,* while *P.g. graeca* seems to occupy most of the highest mountains of central Greece and the Peloponnesos. It remains unclear as to where the boundary between these two subspecies exists and its nature is entirely unknown.

Acknowledgements

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A Second Brood of Inachis io (L.)? — On several occasions here during mid-October 1976, I saw large numbers of *Vanessa atalanta* L. and a dozen or so *I. io* (L.) feeding on ivy flowers. I had never before seen *atalanta* in such numbers, and some were still flying about on sunny days in the second week of November. The October *io* were mainly in fresh condition and I think may have been second brood specimens, as the summer brood disappeared from my garden buddleia during late August and there were hardly any in September. With plenty of ivy in bloom for nourishment this autumn, one hopes that these October *io* butterflies may hibernate successfully. — Richard Revels, Top Field Farm, Dunton Lane, Biggleswade, Beds., SG18 8QU.